

REMARKS

In response to the Final Office Action mailed November 2, 2006, the Applicant requests reconsideration in view of a Request for Continued Examination in conjunction the above claim amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1, 12, 17, 26 and 32 have been amended. Claims 1-10, 12-18, 20-23, 25-27, 29-33 and 35-37 remain pending in this application and currently stand rejected.

Examiner Interview Summary

Applicants thank Examiner Elahee for the courtesy of a telephone interview on January 17, 2007, requested by the undersigned to discuss the rejection of the current claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103. During the interview, Applicants highlighted the unobvious nature of subject matter within the specification for possible amendments to claimed subject matter to the Examiner, and expressed their desire to further prosecution. However, no agreement was made regarding rejected claim patentability.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-18, 20-23, 25-27, 29-33 and 35-37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,795,543 by Cartier et al. (hereinafter *Cartier*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,665,377 by McKinley, Jr. et al. (hereinafter *McKinley*) further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,233,316 by Schier et al. (hereinafter *Schier*). Claims 1, 12, 17, 26 and 32 have been amended, and Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments overcome this rejection and add no new matter.

Amended Claim 1 recites in an advanced intelligent network, a method for using voice activated dialing (VAD) service with respect to originating a communication from a first calling line number comprising, *inter alia*, if the calling line is subscribed to VAD service, establishing a call path between the calling line and an intelligent peripheral with voice recognition and processing capabilities, wherein the intelligent peripheral prompts collection of an utterance from the calling line, translates the utterance into identifying information associated with a called line

and extracts a transaction identification (ID) from a called party parameter and dropping the call path between the calling line and the intelligent peripheral when the SCP receives the first calling line number and transaction ID from the intelligent peripheral and completing the communication between the calling line and the called line, wherein the SCP instructs a service switching point to route the communication to a called party.

Amended Claim 12 recites in an advanced intelligent network with GR-1129 capabilities, a system for using voice activated dialing (VAD) service with respect to originating a communication from a first calling line number comprising, *inter alia*, an intelligent peripheral being operative to prompt collection of an utterance from the calling line and translate the utterance into identifying information associated with a called line and extract a transaction identification (ID) from a called party parameter.

Amended Claim 17 recites in an advanced intelligent network with GR-1129 capabilities, a method for preserving billing and interexchange carrier preferences of a subscriber using voice activated dialing (VAD) service with respect to originating a communication from a first calling line number comprising, *inter alia*, receiving a message from the intelligent peripheral that includes the identifying information and dropping the call path between the calling line and the intelligent peripheral, wherein identification information includes a transaction identification (ID) extracted from a called party parameter.

Amended Claim 26 recites in an advanced intelligent network, a system for using voice activated dialing (VAD) service with respect to originating a communication from a first calling line number comprising, *inter alia*, an intelligent peripheral being operative to prompt collection of an utterance from the calling line and translate the utterance into identifying information associated with a called line and extract a transaction identification (ID) from a called party parameter.

Amended Claim 32 recites in an advanced intelligent network, a method for preserving billing and interexchange carrier preferences of a subscriber using voice activated dialing (VAD) service with respect to originating a communication from a first calling line number comprising,

inter alia, receiving a message that includes the second calling line number and a transaction identification (ID) extracted from a called party parameter and dropping the call path between the calling line and the intelligent peripheral.

Cartier discloses automating the handling of calls involving a request for operator services, e.g. 0- calls. (See *Cartier* column 4, lines 38-42.) *Cartier* discloses an IP 121 that plays an announcement prompting the caller to input the destination telephone number. Upon hearing this announcement, a caller at station 101 dials-in or speaks-in NPA-NXX-XXXX digits of the destination telephone number (step S104). The IP 121 forwards the input digits to the SSP (step not separately shown), and the SSP of CO 111 transmits a Call_Info_From_Resource message containing the destination number through one or more of the STPs 115 to the ISCP 119 (step S114). (See *Cartier* column 21, lines 42-49.) The ISCP 119 formulates an Analyze_Route type response message and sends that message back to the SSP CO 111. In step S124, the ISCP 119 sends that response message through one or more of the STPs 115 back to the end office CO 111. (See *Cartier* column 21, lines 51-53.)

McKinley discloses a networked system of voice-activated dialers (VAD). When a calling party wishes to make a telephone call to a called party, the calling party dials a pre-designated telephone number to connect with a first VAD. The calling party then utters the name of the called party, and additionally specifies a second VAD or other information that could be used to find a second VAD by means of which the called party may be reached. (See *McKinley* column 2, lines 1-7.) *McKinley* further discloses that the first VAD 102 is additionally configured to function as intelligent peripheral (IP), which is a part of an Intelligent Network (IN). The IP can be configured to perform some functions presently performed by other elements of a telephone network such as the Service Control Point (SCP) or a Service Switching Point (SSP). In general, an IP is configured to provide announcements to a party--such as a calling party--and collect information--such as additional digits required or a spoken utterance--to complete a call. (See *McKinley* column 4, lines 38-48.)

Schier discloses a method for completing a telephone call according to a caller's preferences without an excessive use of the caller's time to establish connection of the call to the desired number, and a method for adding the enhancement of a voice activated dialing option to a standard calling card which may be used by an individual quickly and inexpensively. (See *Schier* column 2, lines 12-20.) *Schier* discloses a VAD option service code which may be "*VAD" or "#56", depending on the structure of the particular service provider's protocol. (See *Schier* column 6, lines 30-34.)

In contrast with the claimed invention, the combination of *Cartier*, *McKinley*, and *Schier* fails to disclose, if the calling line is subscribed to VAD service, establishing a call path between the calling line and an intelligent peripheral with voice recognition and processing capabilities, wherein the intelligent peripheral prompts collection of an utterance from the calling line, translates the utterance into identifying information associated with a called line and extracts a transaction identification (ID) from a called party parameter and dropping the call path between the calling line and the intelligent peripheral when the SCP receives the first calling line number and transaction ID from the intelligent peripheral and completing the communication between the calling line and the called line, wherein the SCP instructs a service switching point to route the communication to a called party, as recited in Claim 1. *Cartier* is directed to handling operator-requested telephone calls and fails to teach or suggest an IP extracting a transaction identification (ID) from a called party parameter. Instead *Cartier* discloses an IP that plays an announcement and forwards input digits to an SSP. (See *Cartier* column 21, lines 42-49.) *McKinley* discloses an IP configured to provide announcements to a party--such as a calling party--and collect information--such as additional digits required or a spoken utterance--to complete a call, but fails to teach or suggest extracting a transaction identification (ID) from a called party parameter. *Schier* fails to mention using an intelligent peripheral. Therefore, *Schier* cannot teach or suggest an IP extracting a transaction identification (ID) from a called party parameter. Accordingly, independent Claim 1 patentably distinguishes the present invention over the cited art, and Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 1. Dependent Claims 2-10 are also allowable at least for the reasons described above regarding

independent Claim 1, and by virtue of their dependency upon independent Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection of dependent Claims 2-10.

Claims 12, 17, 26 and 32 include limitations similar to the limitations mentioned above with respect to Claim 1, and are patentably distinguishable from the cited art for the reasons mentioned above with respect to Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 12, 17, 26 and 32. Dependent Claims 13-16 are also allowable at least for the reasons described above regarding independent Claim 12, and by virtue of their dependency upon independent Claim 12. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection of dependent Claims 13-16. Dependent Claims 18, 20-23 and 25 are also allowable at least for the reasons described above regarding independent Claim 17, and by virtue of their dependency upon independent Claim 17. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection of dependent Claims 18, 20-23 and 25. Dependent Claims 27 and 29-31 are also allowable at least for the reasons described above regarding independent Claim 26, and by virtue of their dependency upon independent Claim 26. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection of dependent Claims 27 and 29-31. Dependent Claims 33 and 35-37 are also allowable at least for the reasons described above regarding independent Claim 32, and by virtue of their dependency upon independent Claim 32. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection of dependent Claims 33 and 35-37.

U.S. Application No. 10/033,627
Amendment dated May 2, 2007
Response to Final Office Action dated November 2, 2006

CONCLUSION

A request for a three-month extension of time is requested for the period of February 2, 2007, through May 2, 2007, and is submitted with this amendment.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned please contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at 404.954.5040.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 2, 2007

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